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## Revised United States Standard Certificate of Death

[Approved by U. S. Census and American Public Health Association.]

Statement of occupation .- Precise statement of occupation is very important, so that the relative healthfulness of various pursuits can be known. The question applies to each and every person, irrespective of age. For many occupations a single word or term on the first line will be sufficient, e.g., Farmer or Planter, Physician, Compositor, Architect, Locomotive engineer, Civil engineer, Stationary fireman, etc. But in many cases, especially in industrial employments. it is necessary to know (a) the kind of work and also (b) the nature of the business or industry, and therefore an additional line is provided for the latter statement; it should be used only when needed. As examples: (a) Spinner, (b) Cotton mill; (a) Salesman, (b) Grocery; (a) Foreman, (b) Automobile factory. The material worked on may form part of the second statement. Never return "Laborer," "Foreman," "Manager," "Dealer," etc., without more precise specification, as Day laborer, Farm laborer, Laborer-Coal mine, etc. Women at home, who are engaged in the duties of the household only (not paid Housekeepers who receive a definite salary), may be entered as Housewife, Housework, or At home, and children, not gainfully employed, as At school or At home. Care should be taken to report specifically the occupations of persons engaged in domestic service for wages, as Servant, Cook, Housemaid, etc. If the occupation has been changed or given up on account of the disease causing death, state occupation at beginning of illness. If retired from business, that fact may be indicated thus: Farmer (retired, 6 yrs.) For persons who have no occupation whatever write None.

Statement of cause of death.—Name, first, the disease causing death (the primary affection with respect to time and causation), using always the same accepted term for the same disease. Examples: Cerebrospinal fever (the only definite synonym is "Epidemic cerebrospinal meningitis"); Diphtheria (avoid use of "Croup"); Typhoid fever (never report

"Typhoid pneumonia"); Lobar pneumonia; Bronchopneumonia ("Pneumonia," unqualified, is indefinite); Tuberculosis of lungs, meninges, peritonaeum, etc., Carcinoma, Sarcoma, etc., of.....(name origin; "Cancer" is less definite; avoid use of "Tumor" for malignant neoplasms); Measles; Whooping cough; Chronic valvular heart disease; Chronic interstitial nephritis, etc. The contributory (secondary or intercurrent) affection need not be stated unless important. Example: Measles (disease causing death), Bronchopneumonia (secondary), 10 ds. Never report mere symptoms or terminal conditions, such as "Asthenia," "Anaemia" (merely symptomatic), "Atrophy," "Collapse," "Coma," "Convulsions," "Debility" ("Congenital," "Senile," etc.), "Dropsy," "Exhaustion," "Heart failure," "Haem-orrhage," "Inanition," "Marasmus," "Old age," "Shock," "Uraemia," "Weakness," etc., when a definite disease can be ascertained as the cause. Always qualify all diseases resulting from childbirth or miscarriage, as "PUERPERAL septichaemia," "PUERPERAL peritonitis," etc. State cause for which surgical operation was undertaken. For VIOLENT DEATHS state MEANS OF INJURY and qualify. AS ACCIDENTAL, SUICIDAL, OR HOMICIDAL, OF AS probably such, if impossible to determine definitely. Examples: Accidental drowning; struck by railway train-accident; Revolver wound of headhomicide; Poisoned by carbolic acid-probably suicide. The nature of the injury, as fracture of skull, and consequences (e. g., sepsis, telanus) may be stated under the head of "Contributory." (Recommendations on statement of cause of death approved by . Committee on Nomenclature of the American Medical Association.)

## J. G. W. FISCHER, M. D. ALMA. MISSOURI

retary State Board of mealth:

Notice that the cause of death on this certificate is given as Normoun Chronic Disease". I have been unable to make a more definite dignosis, although the patient has been, from the beginning to the end under my daincy certand observation. She was my mother-in-law and for the last 14 months has practically been a part of my family.

She was a healthy and robust woman until about 2 years ago when she began tradually to lose interest in business matters, got poorer and weaker, yet not sick nor complaining. From Sept. last she began to fail more rapidily, still she did not want to be sick and her appetite was good, but she took her meals costly in bed. At times, when her bowels did not move for 2 or 3 days, she would have about 2 degrees of fever which would disappear after taking a dose

of oil. Suspecting intestinal toxemia I put her on mineral oil and P D & Co. Sulgarian Bacillus Tableta which was all the medicine she needed. The last 6 days her right ankle became slightly edematous and her radial pulse has felt with difficulty and was weak, altho I could detect no valvular, treable tenal nor liver trouble. She gradually sank and easily and quietly passed way, yet being fully conscious up to the last 30 minutes.

Fither my wife, my sister-in-law, or the sevent girl, was constantly with her and she had the very best of attention. All her living children were with per when she died.

I thus went fully into details, and if you can make a diagnosis from the forestated facts, and would suggest a diagnosis or any corrections, I would a glad to make necessay sa correction upon return of this certificate.

J.G.W.Fischer, M.D., Alma, Mo.